

Community Environmental Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting July 19, 2021 - 05:00 PM City Hall Room 132

Members: Hannah Jenkins, **Max Dalton, Indigo Davitt- Liu, Meron Demissie, Mark Dhennin, Tess Dornfeld**, Divine Islam, **Mathew Douglas-May**, Sandy Fazeli, **Lauren Fleming**, Maddie Henderson, **LesLee Jackson, Anna Johnson, Toya Lopez, Barbara Lunde, Nicholas Minderman, Erin Niehoff, Suzanne Savanick Hansen**, Jaqueline Zepeda (Quorum - 10) Members in attendance in bold

Staff: Kim W. Havey, Bjorn Olson

Guests: Danielle Elkins (City of Minneapolis), Russ Brooks (City of Minneapolis), Council Member Jason Chavez.

Call to Order

1. Roll Call – Quorum met
2. Adoption of the agenda. Approved
3. Acceptance of minutes June 21, 2022 Community Environmental Advisory Commission – Approved
4. Location: Minneapolis City Hall 350 S 5th St. Room 132
5. Land Acknowledgement: As we meet here today, we are reminded that Minneapolis is situated on the homelands of the Dakota people. An area that is steeped in rich Indigenous history, it is home to Indigenous people from more than 30 different nations. As a City, we have a responsibility to care for the land on which we live and work and all its natural surroundings. This stewardship is an integral part of our involvement in this commission, and we honor it as we begin our meeting. We now open this space to discuss ways in which we can support Indigenous and Black people in our community.
6. Discussion with Council Member Chavez – Council Member Chavez in favor of the MN 350 People’s Climate Equity Plan. He gave an update on the Hiawatha Project/Roof Depot. The city has offered 3 acres to East Phillips Neighborhood Institute for the urban farm concept, which they are considering.

Council Member Chavez suggested to have the greatest impact members of CEAC should meet in person with council members after sending a letter. He gave some thoughts on Smith Foundry and also discussed lead paint contamination.

7. Presentations: Minneapolis Shared Mobility – Danielle Elkins and Russ Brooks, City of Minneapolis
Danielle updated the commission on the combined bike and scooter program with the City of St. Paul, University of Minnesota, and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Three licenses for scooters have been awarded to Lime, Spin, and Lyft. Two more are pending with after protests were filed by Byrd and Veo. New Programs include an adaptive vehicles program and a cargo bike pilot is in development. Around 1500 locks have been installed along parking meters to secure bikes and scooters.

Mobility hubs were first launched in 2019 and then had a two-year pause. They kicked off the first of the mobility hubs in 2022. The hubs are intended to serve the first and last part of your journey after taking transit the longer distance.

The mobility hubs include an Ambassador Program in which local community members reach out to residents to help educate and encourage use of the hubs.

Additional improvements to the hubs such as lighting and street signage projections are forthcoming along with funding from AARP to engage older adults and improve signage. They are also going to focus on riverfront focus where there are lots of scooters. The program will also incorporate creative strategies to engage folks about proper usage and placement/returning of equipment.

The program has also received a grant from McKnight to do air quality testing with the company Aclima. The monitors will be on vehicles and provide comprehensive screening of pollutants. Each location is measured about 20 times over the year. They will be rolling out the monitoring in the next couple of months and run for 12 months.

Public Works will be working with Hennepin County on a Department of Energy LEAP grant for electrifying transportation.

Q: How is bike share funded? Will this be a sustainable business model? It was funded by a federal grant and now vendors pay a license fee. It is currently self-sufficient. Mobility Hubs are not revenue generating but they are looking at more long-term efforts.

Weather and air quality reporting may be provided via a “Beacon” that is located at each Hub.

Q: What happens to bikes and scooters after their end of life?

The vendors do have end of life plans for their products and the lifecycle impacts were evaluated in the proposals. They have started upcycling batteries.

Q: What is the charging process?

Lime has swappable batteries while Lyft and Spin have employees that swap out the battery. They have said they are going to moving to electric vans and cargo bikes to do the battery swaps and other maintenance.

Q: How much carbon do the scooters produce?

Public Works does a survey annually to look at whether the scooters are replacing travel behaviors that would have used a car, but no good carbon impact data exists in the few cities that have taken on these kinds of programs.

Q: What are the possibilities for having a year round winter mobility hubs?

There is potential to look at a winter pilot on the U of M campus. Should there be seasonal opening of bike lanes and closing based on winter?

The goal is to launch alternative mobility options each year by April 1st. This year the intention is to keep out the scooters and bikes as long as possible into the winter. This is a 4-year program so there is stability long term. However, the City can only signed one-year contracts and is prohibited by state law from regulating ride share programs.

There is a group that is trying to close down the mobility hubs. If the Commission or individual members are interested in supporting this work, they should contact council members and express the need for these kinds of programs.

For promotion, Public Works has done tiktok and social media. They have a public dashboard that gives data on number of rides etc.

<https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/government-data/datasource/2022-bike-scooter-dashboard/>

8. Discussion: Remaining topics for 2022 2023 CEAC membership Climate Equity Plan Updates
Invitations to Council Members Old Business Opportunities to engage:

- Interest in Resilient Cities & Communities Water Quality initiative
- Invitations to council members to attend CEAC
- Open Streets tabling – West Broadway, Sat. Sept 10: 11am – 4:30pm

Updates and Announcements from Commissioners and staff

- VOC-reducing ordinance passed by the Public Health and Safety Committee
- Applications are being take now for the Green Cost Share program
 - o Lawncare and landscaping equipment
 - o Auto body shop paint conversion
 - o Diesel emission reduction opportunities

Possible Future CEAC Meeting Topics:

- MN350 – People’s Climate Equity Plan - August
- Minneapolis Climate Equity Plan - August
- Sustainable building policies for City Financed economic development
- Air monitoring networks in Minneapolis
- Carbon Free Zones and fossil gas free development
- How to reduce plastic in the community?

- How do we reduce emissions from the HERC?
- Electrical heating technologies - Jimmy Randolph. The Climate Equity Plan presentation could introduce this.

Masks and hand sanitizer will be provided. After 6pm the S 5th Street doors (light rail side) to City Hall are locked. Bus passes and parking passes for the Haaf Ramp are available.

Adjournment Next Community Environmental Advisory Commission meeting: August 16, 2022 from 5-7 PM For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact the City Coordinator's Office at 612-673-2563 or e-mail sustainability@minneapolismn.gov. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-263-6850. Para asistencia 612-673- 2700 - Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 - Hadii aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500.